

Acton Council on Aging Board Meeting Minutes for 6/20/2011

Present: Barbara Tallone, Chair; Charlie Aaronson, Vice-Chair; Sally Thompson, Secretary; Stephen Baran, Treasurer; Ann Corcoran; Pat Ellis; Sharon Mercurio, Director; Mike Gowing, Liaison Board of Selectmen.

Absent: Jim Papachristos; Paul Turner; Barbara Willson; Norma Wu, President Friends of the COA; Sgt. Ray Grey, Liaison Police Department

Call to Order- Barbara Tallone

The meeting was called to order by Barbara Tallone at 3:50 PM on 6/20/2011 at the Senior Center.

Items disseminated at meeting or available electronically include:

-Director's Report for May 2011 from Sharon Mercurio

Review of the Minutes- Sally Thompson

The minutes of the Acton Council on Aging Board meeting for 5/09/11 were corrected for typographical errors, but no errors of content.

Directors Report – Sharon Mercurio

The Director attended a number of meetings this month including but not limited to: Department Head, COA Directors, Employee Recognition Committee, Emerson Hospital Collaborative, Active Acton, and Minuteman Transportation.

She met with the members of the previous expansion committee to discuss plans for the new Senior Center and she visited the Nara Park site and an Arlington Street site.

Sharon arranged for the Employee Assistance Program to meet with Department Heads.

She began a successful "home cooked meal" luncheon program with about 40 seniors attending. Seniors are asked to donate \$3.00 per lunch. Different programs are providing the lunches and there have been some commodity food donations.

Sharon has begun the process to replace Carol Steiner who will be leaving her position at the COA at the end of the month.

A number of senior center improvements have been underway: door chimes and emergency locator box were installed with assistance from IT. New floors will be installed in the dining room this summer. New cabinets were purchased with grant money for the dining room. A sound system will be placed compliments of IT. And a freezer has been donated by municipal properties.

Upcoming programs can be found in the COA Newsletter.

New Senior Center Work Group Report-

To be discussed in Mike Gowing's report.

Treasurer's Report- Steve Baran

Next report will be for the quarter ended June 30, 2011 (4th Quarter) will be given at the September meeting.

Liaison Board of Selectmen – Mike Gowing

The BOS is voting on a new steering committee for the new Senior Center tonight. The proposal is for the committee to have 9 full members and 2 associate members. The 9 proposed members are: Peter Ashton, Ann Chang, Dean Charter, Mike Gowing, Paulina Knibbe, Steve Ledoux, Sharon Mercurio, and Barbara Tallone. The 2 proposed associate members are Steve Baran and Barbara Willson. Associate members may vote in place of an absent full member.

Acton 2020 is holding a meeting on June 23 to obtain town input. Please attend. Board members should keep current in the activities of the Acton 2020 group especially with respect to plans to create common community space. Mike encouraged the board to attend their meetings and speak up as well as participate in blogs especially related to a new senior center.

Mike Gowing has an interest in developing a method for the Town of Acton to reach out to people with medical needs in the event of a disaster or weather related loss of electricity and power. A tabletop meeting to discuss emergency services will be held on July 30th. FEMA and MEMA will help with the process.

Liaison Friends of COA – Norma Wu

Norma Wu was not present and no report was given.

Liaison Minuteman Senior Services – Charlie Aaronson

No report.

Liaison Acton Police – Sgt. Raymond Grey

Sgt. Grey is absent and no report was given.

New/Old Business – Steve Baran

Steve asked for an update on Senior Tax relief. Mike Gowing reported that testimony was given before the Joint Committee at the State House on senior property tax relief for eligible seniors who spend more than 10% of their income on property tax for their primary residence.

Nominating Committee – Slate of new officers - Steve Baran

Barb Tallone, Chair	3 year term
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Charlie Aaronson, Vice Chair	3 year term
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Barbara Willson, Secretary	2 year term
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Ann Corcoran, Treasurer. 2 year term

There were no new nominations from the floor. The slate of officers was unanimously accepted. Members and terms of membership are:

Steve Baran 2 year term

Sally Thompson 1 year term

Pat Ellis 1 year term

Paul Turner 1 year term

Jim Papachristos 1 year term

ALL COA BOARD MEMBERS MUST STOP AT THE TOWN CLERKS OFFICE TO BE SWORN IN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

Close Meeting-Next Meeting– Barbara Tallone

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 PM. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the COA Board is September 12, 2011. It will be held at the Acton Senior Center at 3:45PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sally Thompson, Secretary